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10/066,037

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Kaihu Chen

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12/13/2006

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/066,037

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 6.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. This Office action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed under 37 CFR §1.53(d) on 9/19/06. Applicants have properly set forth the RCE, which has been entered into the application, and an examination on the merits follows herewith. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 5, 9, 14, 15, 16 and 17. All pending claims have been rejected as being obvious over prior arts.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Publication No. 2002/0018078 A1 (Khan et al.), herein referred to as Khan and U. S. Patent No. 6,101,509 (Hanson et al.), herein referred to as Hanson.

Referring to claim 1, Khan discloses a method for defining a composite web page (page 1, paragraph 2). Khan discloses identifying a web page, wherein the user identifies a content source the content source identified as a web page (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 6-10). Khan discloses that the elements that are listed for the user to select correspond to various portions of a web page (page 1, paragraph 7, lines 3-9). Khan discloses the user further selecting portions of this content source, wherein this

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selection process from the web page discloses an analyzing step by the user to determine a list of the associated elements that are the further selected portions of the content (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 12-14). Khan further discloses that once the user has determined further elements of the web page, these contents can be displayed in a menu format, wherein presenting the list of associated elements to the user, and allowing for marking or user selection of the elements from the list, wherein selection from a menu of these selected contents are disclosed (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 14-18). Khan also discloses registering the user selection of the element from the determined list of elements, wherein the storage of these user selections is interpreted as registering of the user selection (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 1-4). Khan discloses user selection for determining the list of associated elements, wherein Khan does not clearly state analyzing the web page. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for Khan to disclose analyzing the web page to determine the list of associated elements. Khan clearly teaches the user determining and choosing the further list of associated elements from within the web page. Khan by teaching that the user has gone through an identification process of elements for determining, has disclosed the reliance of an analysis process, wherein order for the determining of the elements and an identification of the elements, an analysis process must occur by the user. Hence it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for analyzing the web page to determining the associated list of elements. Khan does disclose allowing the user to place the items selected from the determined list for viewing and verification, where placement of the elements in the

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information windows can be interpreted as a means for previewing through a preview pane (page 6, paragraph 75), but Khan does not clearly disclose a preview pane. Khan does not disclose that the list of determined elements are presented in a navigation pane, the navigation pane being operable to allow the user to view and select one or more of the elements from the determined list of elements. Hanson discloses providing a various example of navigation panes, with one example being operable to allow the user to view and select elements that are part of the web page and can be modified by the user (column 12, lines 1-10). Hanson further discloses presenting in a preview window, the particular portion of the content of the identified web page corresponding to a selected element by the user, which the user modifies, and where the preview pane then allows the user to visually verify the user selection (column 11, lines 32-38). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Hanson to disclose providing a navigation pane and preview pane as per the claims. Both Khan and Hanson disclose a means for creating, generating web pages in addition to modifying web pages. Although, Khan does disclose providing menus from which elements are chosen for viewing by the user, suggesting both a navigation and preview process, Hanson provided a clear further explanation of the navigation and preview features and its use in creation of web pages as disclosed in the claims. Therefore, Khan with an objective of creating web pages would have been motivated to learn from Hanson further specific features that have already been touched upon or suggested in the reference. Therefore, one skilled in the art at the time of invention

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would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to include the specific features of the navigation and preview panes.

Referring to claim 2, Khan discloses storing the user selection in a local registry (page 7, paragraph 99).

Referring to claim 3, Khan discloses transmitting the user selection to a remote server for storage (page 6, paragraph 82, lines 6-8).

Referring to claim 4, Khan discloses creating a specification, the specification including data defining how to fetch at least one web page associated with the selected elements and how to extract the selected elements (page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

Referring to claim 5, Khan discloses identifying a plurality of web pages and wherein the list includes elements corresponding to particular portions of each of the plurality of web pages (page 5, paragraph 73).

Referring to claim 6, Khan discloses defining segments of the list according to each of the plurality of web pages (page 5, paragraph 73).

Referring to claim 7, Khan discloses presenting each of the segments of the list at separate times, wherein Khan discloses providing various different segments that are selected by the user over a configurable number of days in the past, wherein the display of this data over a certain degree of time represent data that is displayed at separate times, wherein presenting segments selected by the user at separate times (page 6, paragraph 85, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 8, Khan discloses determining an identifier associated with the user and wherein registering includes storing the identifier (page 7, paragraph 97).

Referring to claim 9, Khan discloses a method for presenting a composite web page (page 1, paragraph 2). Khan discloses receiving a user request to present a composite web page (page 1, paragraphs 7-9). Khan discloses identifying a web page, wherein the user identifies a content source the content source identified as a web page (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 6-10). Khan discloses that the elements that are listed for the user to select correspond to various portions of a web page (page 1, paragraph 7, lines 3-9). Khan discloses the user further selecting portions of this content source, wherein this selection process from the web page discloses an analyzing step by the user to determine a list of the associated elements that are the further selected portions of the content (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 12-14). Khan further discloses that once the user has determined further elements of the web page, these contents can be displayed in a menu format, wherein presenting the list of determined elements to the user, and allowing for marking or user selection of the elements from the list, wherein selection from a menu of these selected contents are disclosed (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 14-18). Khan discloses identifying at least one element of the composite web page, retrieving the at least one element and rendering the at least one element to form the composite web page (page 1, paragraphs 7-9). Khan discloses user selection for determining the list of associated elements, wherein Khan does not clearly state analyzing the web page. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for Khan to disclose analyzing the web page to determine the list of associated elements. Khan clearly teaches the user determining and choosing the further list of associated elements from within the web page. Khan by teaching that the

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user has gone through an identification process of elements for determining, has disclosed the reliance of an analysis process, wherein order for the determining of the elements and an identification of the elements, an analysis process must occur by the user. Hence it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for analyzing the web page to determining the associated list of elements. Khan does not disclose that the list of determined elements are presented in a navigation pane, the navigation pane being operable to allow the user to view and select one or more of the elements from the determined list of elements. Hanson discloses providing a various example of navigation panes, with one example being operable to allow the user to view and select elements that are part of the web page and can be modified by the user (column 12, lines 1-10). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Hanson to disclose providing a navigation pane as per the claims. Both Khan and Hanson disclose a means for creating, generating web pages in addition to modifying web pages. Although, Khan does disclose providing menus from which elements are chosen for viewing by the user, suggesting both a navigation and preview process, Hanson provided a clear further explanation of the navigation features and its use in creation of web pages as disclosed in the claims. Therefore, Khan with an objective of creating web pages would have been motivated to learn from Hanson further specific features that have already been touched upon or suggested in the reference. Therefore, one skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to include the specific features of the navigation pane.



Referring to claim 10, Khan discloses accessing a registry (page 7, paragraph 99).

Referring to claim 11, Khan discloses determining an identifier associated with the user and accessing the registry based on the identifier (page 7, paragraph 97).

Referring to claim 12, Khan discloses retrieving a web page associated with an element and extracting the element from the associated web page (page 7, paragraph 90).

Referring to claim 13, Khan discloses accessing a registry, the registry including data defining the position of each element and wherein rendering includes displaying each element according to the data (page 7, paragraphs 92-94).

Referring to claim 14, Khan discloses a system for defining a composite web page (page 1, paragraph 2). Khan discloses a processor, a memory coupled to the processor storing processor executable instructions to control the operation of the processor (page 2, paragraphs 20 and 21). Khan discloses identifying a web page, wherein the user identifies a content source the content source identified as a web page (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 6-10). Khan discloses that the elements that are listed for the user to select correspond to various portions of a web page (page 1, paragraph 7, lines 3-9). Khan discloses the user further selecting portions of this content source, wherein this selection process from the web page discloses an analyzing step by the user to determine a list of the associated elements that are the further selected portions of the content (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 12-14). Khan further discloses that once the user has determined further elements of the web page, these contents can be displayed in a

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menu format, wherein presenting the list of associated elements to the user, and allowing for marking or user selection of the elements from the list, wherein selection from a menu of these selected contents are disclosed (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 14-18). Khan also discloses registering the user selection of the element from the determined list of elements, wherein the storage of these user selections is interpreted as registering of the user selection (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 1-4). Khan discloses user selection for determining the list of associated elements, wherein Khan does not clearly state the processor analyzing the web page to determine the initial list of elements contained within the web page. But Khan does disclose the processor analyzing the content source or web page and as result of this analysis determining key elements within the web page and returning the key elements to be displayed (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 5-12). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for Khan to disclose analyzing the web page to determine the list of associated elements. Although Khan may not disclose the initial step taken by the processor to analyze the web page to determine list of elements, Khan does disclose the concept of analyzing of content source or web page carried out by the processor for retrieval and display of certain desired information. With, Khan teaching that the user has gone through an identification process of elements for determining, has disclosed the reliance of an analysis process, wherein order for the determining of the elements and an identification of the elements, an analysis process must occur by the user. This analysis can be further automated by allowing the processor to carry out the analysis and automatically determine the key elements desired. Hence it would have been

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obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for analyzing the web page to determining the associated list of elements. Khan does disclose allowing the user to place the items selected from the determined list for viewing and verification, where placement of the elements in the information windows can be interpreted as a means for previewing through a preview pane (page 6, paragraph 75), but Khan does not clearly disclose a preview pane. Khan does not disclose that the list of determined elements are presented in a navigation pane, the navigation pane being operable to allow the user to view and select one or more of the elements from the determined list of elements. Hanson discloses providing a various example of navigation panes, with one example being operable to allow the user to view and select elements that are part of the web page and can be modified by the user (column 12, lines 1-10). Hanson further discloses presenting in a preview window, the particular portion of the content of the identified web page corresponding to a selected element by the user, which the user modifies, and where the preview pane then allows the user to visually verify the user selection (column 11, lines 32-38). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Hanson to disclose providing a navigation pane and preview pane as per the claims. Both Khan and Hanson disclose a means for creating, generating web pages in addition to modifying web pages. Although, Khan does disclose providing menus from which elements are chosen for viewing by the user, suggesting both a navigation and preview process, Hanson provided a clear further explanation of the navigation and preview features and its use in creation of web pages as disclosed in the claims. Therefore, Khan with an objective of creating web pages

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would have been motivated to learn from Hanson further specific features that have already been touched upon or suggested in the reference. Therefore, one skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to include the specific features of the navigation and preview panes.

Referring to claims 15 and 17, Khan discloses a system for presenting a composite web page (page 1, paragraph 2). Khan discloses a processor, a memory coupled to the processor storing processor executable instructions to control the operation of the processor (page 2, paragraphs 20 and 21). Khan discloses receiving a user request to present a composite web page, wherein the user identifies a content source the content source identified as a web page (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 6-10). Khan discloses that the elements that are listed for the user to select correspond to various portions of a web page (page 1, paragraph 7, lines 3-9). Khan discloses the user further selecting portions of this content source, wherein this selection process from the web page discloses an analyzing step by the user to determine a list of the associated elements that are the further selected portions of the content (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 12-14). Khan further discloses that once the user has determined further elements of the web page, these contents can be displayed in a menu format, wherein presenting the list of associated elements to the user, and allowing for marking or user selection of the elements from the list, wherein selection from a menu of these selected contents are disclosed (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 14-18). Khan also discloses registering the user selection of the element from the determined list of elements, wherein the storage of these user selections is interpreted as registering of

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the user selection (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 1-4). Khan discloses identifying at least one element of the composite web page, retrieving the at least one element and rendering the at least one element to form the composite web page (page 1, paragraphs 7-9). Khan discloses user selection for determining the list of associated elements, wherein Khan does not clearly state analyzing the web page. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for Khan to disclose analyzing the web page to determine the list of associated elements. Khan clearly teaches the user determining and choosing the further list of associated elements from within the web page. Khan by teaching that the user has gone through an identification process of elements for determining, has disclosed the reliance of an analysis process, wherein order for the determining of the elements and an identification of the elements, an analysis process must occur by the user. Hence it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for analyzing the web page to determining the associated list of elements. Khan does disclose allowing the user to place the items selected from the determined list for viewing and verification, where placement of the elements in the information windows can be interpreted as a means for previewing through a preview pane (page 6, paragraph 75), but Khan does not clearly disclose a preview pane. Khan does not disclose that the list of determined elements are presented in a navigation pane, the navigation pane being operable to allow the user to view and select one or more of the elements from the determined list of elements. Hanson discloses providing a various example of navigation panes, with one example being operable to allow the user to view and select elements that are part of the web

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page and can be modified by the user (column 12, lines 1-10). Hanson further discloses presenting in a preview window, the particular portion of the content of the identified web page corresponding to a selected element by the user, which the user modifies, and where the preview pane then allows the user to visually verify the user selection (column 11, lines 32-38). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Hanson to disclose providing a navigation pane and preview pane as per the claims. Both Khan and Hanson disclose a means for creating, generating web pages in addition to modifying web pages. Although, Khan does disclose providing menus from which elements are chosen for viewing by the user, suggesting both a navigation and preview process, Hanson provided a clear further explanation of the navigation and preview features and its use in creation of web pages as disclosed in the claims. Therefore, Khan with an objective of creating web pages would have been motivated to learn from Hanson further specific features that have already been touched upon or suggested in the reference. Therefore, one skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to include the specific features of the navigation and preview panes.

Referring to claim 16, Khan discloses a method for defining a composite web page (page 1, paragraph 2). Khan discloses identifying a web page, wherein the user identifies a content source the content source identified as a web page (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 6-10). Khan discloses that the elements that are listed for the user to select correspond to various portions of a web page (page 1, paragraph 7, lines 3-9). Khan discloses the user further selecting portions of this content source, wherein this

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selection process from the web page discloses an analyzing step by the user to determine a list of the associated elements that are the further selected portions of the content (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 12-14). Khan further discloses that once the user has determined further elements of the web page, these contents can be displayed in a menu format, wherein presenting the list of associated elements to the user, and allowing for marking or user selection of the elements from the list, wherein selection from a menu of these selected contents are disclosed (page 5, paragraph 73, lines 14-18). Khan also discloses registering the user selection of the element from the determined list of elements, wherein the storage of these user selections is interpreted as registering of the user selection (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 1-4). Khan also discloses registering the user selection of the element from the determined list of elements, wherein the storage of these user selections is interpreted as registering of the user selection (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 1-4). Khan discloses user selection for determining the list of associated elements, wherein Khan does not clearly state the processor analyzing the web page to determine the initial list of elements contained within the web page. But Khan does disclose the processor analyzing the content source or web page and as result of this analysis determining key elements within the web page and returning the key elements to be displayed (page 6, paragraph 74, lines 5-12). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for Khan to disclose analyzing the web page to determine the list of associated elements. Although Khan may not disclose the initial step taken by the processor to analyze the web page to determine list of elements, Khan does disclose the concept of

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analyzing of content source or web page carried out by the processor for retrieval and display of certain desired information. With, Khan teaching that the user has gone through an identification process of elements for determining, has disclosed the reliance of an analysis process, wherein order for the determining of the elements and an identification of the elements, an analysis process must occur by the user. This analysis can be further automated by allowing the processor to carry out the analysis and automatically determine the key elements desired. Hence it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention for analyzing the web page to determining the associated list of elements. Khan does disclose allowing the user to place the items selected from the determined list for viewing and verification, where placement of the elements in the information windows can be interpreted as a means for previewing through a preview pane (page 6, paragraph 75), but Khan does not clearly disclose a preview pane. Khan does not disclose that the list of determined elements are presented in a navigation pane, the navigation pane being operable to allow the user to view and select one or more of the elements from the determined list of elements. Hanson discloses providing a various example of navigation panes, with one example being operable to allow the user to view and select elements that are part of the web page and can be modified by the user (column 12, lines 1-10). Hanson further discloses presenting in a preview window, the particular portion of the content of the identified web page corresponding to a selected element by the user, which the user modifies, and where the preview pane then allows the user to visually verify the user selection (column 11, lines 32-38). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art



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at the time of the invention to learn from Hanson to disclose providing a navigation pane and preview pane as per the claims. Both Khan and Hanson disclose a means for creating, generating web pages in addition to modifying web pages. Although, Khan does disclose providing menus from which elements are chosen for viewing by the user, suggesting both a navigation and preview process, Hanson provided a clear further explanation of the navigation and preview features and its use in creation of web pages as disclosed in the claims. Therefore, Khan with an objective of creating web pages would have been motivated to learn from Hanson further specific features that have already been touched upon or suggested in the reference. Therefore, one skilled in the art at the time of invention would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to include the specific features of the navigation and preview panes.

Referring to claims 18 and 20, Khan discloses analyzing the web page includes parsing HTML source code of the web page (page 7, paragraph 92), where Khan refers to the HTML code represented by the web page and traversing through the code for determining the elements that are chosen.

Referring to claim 19, Khan discloses presenting the list to the user includes providing a view of the relationships between the associated elements in the form of a tree structure (page 6, paragraphs 84 and 85), wherein Khan teaches providing a list with categorized information, showing a relationship between the elements, and further displaying a directory wherein a directory represents the tree structure form.

***Response to Arguments***

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3. Applicant's arguments filed 9/19/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Khan discloses determining the list of elements corresponding to various portions of a web page. Although, Khan does not clearly disclose the use of a navigation pane and preview panes, Hanson whose objective is also to create and modify web pages clearly discloses the use of navigation panes and preview panes. Therefore, Khan would have been motivated to learn from Hanson to use the navigation and preview pane to view the web page before publication.

Although Khan initially does rely on user analysis to determine the first list of elements, Khan does teach the processor analysis of web pages or content source for retrieval of key elements. As pointed out in the rejection of claim 14, such a teaching of the automated analysis of a content source within the same system would make it obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to take such an automated system for analysis of the content source for generated a first list of elements.

It is determined based on inspection of Kahn's Provisional Application, that the subject matter identified in U. S. Publication No. 2002/0018078 A1 (Khan) is also disclosed in Kahn's Provisional Application 60/209,873. Kahn's Provisional Application discloses analyzing contents within the web page, wherein the user choosing the initial elements can be interpreted as an analyzing process from which results a list of elements that are associated with the web page. The user has then created a list of associated elements with the cited example teaching a list of hyperlinks that can then be further selected for accessing desired information. See page 18, lines 13-18.

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Kahn's Provisional Application also teaches the generation of a list of websites which also can be interpreted as a list of associated information with further means for the user to choose the desired information. See page 20, lines 14-20. These lists are presented to the user for manipulation and selection of desired items.

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for defining web pages.

Responses to this action should be submitted as per the options cited below: The United States Patent and Trademark Office requires most patent related correspondence to be: a) faxed to the Central Fax number (571-273-8300) b) hand carried or delivered to the Customer Service Window (located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), c) mailed to the mailing address set forth in 37 CFR 1.1 (e.g., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450), or d) transmitted to the Office using the Office's Electronic Filing System.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4054. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Namitha Pillai  
Assistant Examiner  
Art Unit 2173  
December 9, 2006



**RAYMOND J. BAYERL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 2173**